



**Visions of National Institution for Human Rights on  
Draft law on amendment of some provisions of the Criminal Law  
issued by Decree No. (15) of 1976**

**(Prepared in light of the proposed law submitted to the Council of  
Representatives)**

**(On crimes of murder, breach of modesty, attacking residential places,  
threat of use of weapons, defamation, assaulting, secretes disclosure,  
theft, fraud, breach of trust, usury and insulting the National Council)**

**Introduction:**

In reference to the letter of His Excellency Shura Council Chairman No. (276/s a kh/f 3 d 4), dated 01<sup>st</sup> April 2014 including the desire of the Shura Council's Committee of Foreign Affairs, Defense and National Security on requesting NIHR visions of Draft law on amendment of some provisions of the Criminal Law issued by Decree No. (15) of 1976, prepared in light of the proposed law submitted to the Council of Representatives (On crimes of murder, breach of modesty, attacking the residence places, threat of use of weapons, defamation, assaulting, secretes disclosure, theft, fraud, breach of trust, usury and insulting the National Council).

It is apparent that amendments have been made in (17) articles, as two articles dealt with the augmentation of penalty of the crime in the same and the remaining articles are centralized on replacing the phrase of "defense force members" with " members of the armed forces, adding a new clause, whereby "the chairmen and members of Board of Directors and all workers at a private company, where the Government owns shares more than 50% shall be included in the meaning of the public employee, replacing the phrase of "State of Bahrain" with "Kingdom of Bahrain" to reflect the nature of the constitutional system, including both Council of Representatives and Shura Council within the authorities that assaulting the same is punishable by virtue of the provision and adding some means of breaching the right to privacy by reviewing the secrets of others on the Internet.

**NIHR Visions:**

By reviewing the proposed project, it is evident that the articles proposed to be amended aren't connected to human rights and the articles related to increasing the maximum limit of the penalty imposed on the crimes are made for purpose to create a state of security and social stability, achieving deterrence from committing such crimes referred thereto in the draft law and assisting in decreasing the criminal danger thereof to the individual, society and State and isn't deemed as augmentation that affects the individuals' enjoyment of the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed for the individuals.